REMARKS/ARGUMENT

This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted to change the multiple dependent claims to single dependent claims in order to eliminate the improper multiple dependent claims and to reduce the government filing fee.

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail to Addressee (mail label # EL924372505US) in an envelope addressed to: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202, on March 27, 2002:

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Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX A

"CLEAN" VERSION OF EACH PARAGRAPH/SECTION/CLAIM
37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(ii) AND (c)(i)

CLAIMS (with indication of amended or new):

A1 (Amended) 4. A method as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the product of the amplification reaction is additionally detected by hybridization.

A2 (Amended) 6. The method as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the amplification product is detected with the aid of fluorescence detection.

A3 (Amended) 8. The method as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the amplification product is detected with the aid of fluorescence resonance energy transfer.

A4 (Amended) 10. The method as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that human-pathogenic stxA2 and swine-pathogenic stxA2e are distinguished by means of a melting curve analysis.

A5 (Amended) 13. The method as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that hybridization probes with sequences as shown in SEQ ID No. 5-8 or SEQ ID No. 8 are used.

(Amended) 14. Use of hybridization probes as claimed in claim 11 for determining melting curves.

A6 (Amended) 17. A kit as claimed in claim 15, comprising reagents for amplifying additional pathogenicity factors.

APPENDIX B

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE
37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(iii) AND (c)(ii)

CLAIMS:

4. A method as claimed in claim 2 [or 3], characterized in that the product of the amplification reaction is additionally detected by hybridization.

6. The method as claimed in claim [2-5] 2, characterized in that the amplification product is detected with the aid of fluorescence detection.

8. The method as claimed in claim [4-6] 4, characterized in that the amplification product is detected with the aid of fluorescence resonance energy transfer.

10. The method as claimed in claim 8 [or 9], characterized in that human-pathogenic stxA2 and swine-pathogenic stxA2e are distinguished by means of a melting curve analysis.

13. The method as claimed in claim 9 [or 10], characterized in that hybridization probes with sequences [as given in claim 11 or 12] as shown in SEQ ID No. 5-8 or SEQ ID No. 8 are used.

14. Use of hybridization probes as claimed in claim 11 [or 12] for determining melting curves.

17. A kit as claimed in claim 15 [or 16], comprising reagents for amplifying additional pathogenicity factors.